



2018 CDSS Annual Tribal Consultation Summit Report

CDSS Tribal Engagement Strategy

To ground implementation in a strong government-to-government relationship, the Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA) completed an intensive process of meeting with tribal officials in Indian Country throughout California. Based on input received, the OTA developed a Tribal Engagement Strategy which included the development of a Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC). Consultation included discussion on the finalization of the CDSS Tribal Engagement Strategy, including the convening of the TAC to provide regular and sustained high-level guidance to the department as it implements programs across divisions that impact Indian children, families and tribes.

Tribal Engagement Strategy includes the following sections:

- 1) Tribal Consultation Policy/ Delegation of Authority
- 2) Tribal Advisory Committee
- 3) All Tribal Leader Letter
- 4) Tribal Stakeholder Review
- 5) OTA Communications – Email Noticing; Website; Bulletin; Newsletter, Annual Report

COMMENT (Numbers Correspond with Action)	ACTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delegation from tribe should be accepted. 2. Request to include a specific TAC seat for Eastern Sierra tribes. 3. Request to have Tribal Chairperson's Associations select regional TAC representatives. 4. Develop standardized nomination forms for tribal leaders interested in serving on TAC. 5. TAC is a good method for engaging tribes. 6. Include tribal administrators/CEO's in the dissemination of letters, materials and formal notices sent to tribal chairpersons. 7. Email noticing is better than paper noticing for tribal chairs. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CDSS will include delegation authority clarification in Tribal Consultation Policy. 2. TAC Charter updated to include one seat in the Central Region for Eastern California Tribes. 3. TAC Charter updated to include one seat in each region filled by nomination from the Tribal Chairperson's Association in respective regions. 4. OTA will develop standardized nomination forms for future nomination processes. 5. Finalized TAC charter with edits to representation. 6. OTA will develop a system to maintain an email list to include appropriate staff (tribal administrators/CEOs) in formal communications to Tribal Chairpersons.

8. No objection to All Tribal Leader Letter, Tribal Stakeholder Review and OTA Communications.	<p>7. CDSS will email notice tribes unless postal mail is specifically requested. OTA will maintain the lists for noticing tribal chairpersons and keep confidential.</p> <p>8. All Tribal Leader Letter, Tribal Stakeholder Review and OTA Communications elements will be developed and instituted in 2019.</p>
<p align="center">Foster Youth Bill of Rights</p> <p><i>The Office of the Foster Care Ombudsperson (OFCO) is developing recommendation to the Legislature regarding foster youth rights and modifications to the duties of the OFCO to improve the dissemination of and education about these rights. The OFCO seeks consultation with tribal governments on the recommendations that will be presented to the Legislature.</i></p>	
COMMENTS (Numbers Correspond with Action)	ACTION
<p>1. Tribal Customary Adoption should be included in ICWA specific publications.</p> <p>2. Specific rights publication for ICWA youth.</p>	<p>1. Ensure CDSS issues policy guidance to counties to addresses the tribal approved home process, RFA and payments.</p> <p>2. The OFCO will create a tribal ICWA Foster Youth Bill of Rights (FYBoR) through tribal consultation and tribal youth focus groups.</p>
<p align="center">CalFresh & Nutrition, CalFresh Consultation Mandate</p> <p><i>Nutrition for Seniors and People with Disabilities: Consultation on the implementation of new state law allowing seniors and people with disabilities receiving SSI to also apply for CalFresh or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) beginning in the summer of 2019.</i></p> <p><i>Employment and Training (E&T) Programs for Cal Fresh Recipients: Consultation on the expansion of CalFresh E&T programs to ensure that E&T programs are provided for Indians living on reservations.</i></p>	
COMMENTS (Numbers Correspond with Action)	ACTION
<p>1. Articulate the continuum of employment services available to Tribes.</p> <p>2. Revisit reimbursement structure, including emphasis on federal reimbursement for costs incurred using non-federal funding.</p> <p>3. Align across workforce programs so that it is easier to navigate for client and administrators.</p>	<p>1. Discuss options for improvement through the Tribal Advisory Committee.</p> <p>2. TAC to consider non-federal funding sources available to tribes/tribal organizations that might be used to cover cost of allowable Employment and Training (E&T) expenses.</p> <p>3. Examine workforce program alignment for client and administrators through TAC.</p>

<p align="center">TANF Funding Formulas for Tribal TANF Programs</p> <p><i>Federal regulations and state law require funding to be based off the state expenditures for Native American AFDC cases in 1994. This funding concept is the same as the TANF program, whose block grant funding is determined based on the state's 1994 AFDC program expenditures. The CDSS shared what data is used in the determination and where the data is extracted from.</i></p>	
<p align="center">COMMENTS</p> <p align="center">(Numbers Correspond with Action)</p>	<p align="center">ACTION</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tribal TANF funding methodology does not take into consideration the rate of inflation and is based on 1994 US Census data, which is determined flawed. Additionally, tribal descendants are not always counted but can determine higher population numbers for funding purposes. 2. Caseload levels should not be re-calculated to produce lower funding levels when a tribe leaves a TANF Consortium. At minimum, tribes should receive the same funding level received as part of the Consortium. 3. Increase tribal access to verify non-duplication of aid. Identifying duplicate aid can be difficult and does not happen in real time. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a workgroup to discuss alternate sources from which to determine caseloads, options for funding methodology and access to verify non-duplication of aid. 2. Create a workgroup to discuss alternate sources from which to determine caseloads, options for funding methodology and access to verify non-duplication of aid. 3. Include discussion of MEDS Lite updates through workgroup to assess Tribal TANF technology needs for potential overlap with other employment technology projects in flight (i.e., E&T Online Resource Center).
<p align="center">Open Comment/Non-Agenda Items</p>	
<p align="center">COMMENTS</p> <p align="center">(Numbers Correspond with Action)</p>	<p align="center">ACTION</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Placement issues with Tribal Approved Homes and the Resource Family Approved process. 2. Increase the recognition of Tribal TANF programs as government entities by other state agencies. 3. CDSS should be attending National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) conferences/ meetings. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CDSS to identify clarifying resources and technical assistance opportunities for Tribe and Counties to improve implementation issues. 2. Discuss options for improvement through the TAC. 3. CDSS to request out of state travel approval for staff to attend NCAI conferences and meetings.